

I would like to thank the committee for their time and consideration of this important issue. My name is Dr. Sagar Patel, I am a board-certified pediatric dentist in Frederick, MD with hospital credentials at Holy Cross - Germantown and Shady Grove Hospitals. I am here to support HB-1146 because it will help bring reimbursement parity between public and private insurance markets. This regular review of reimbursement will ensure providers are properly compensated for their time and expertise in caring for the most-at risk populations in our state. Currently, there is a significant backlog of patients in need of dental treatment in the operating room setting who are unable to find a hospital to take on their case. Presently, our hospital wait time is over one year, and many of these families have nowhere to turn. It is those who are most in need that our insurance markets are not serving. For these reasons I ask for a favorable report on HB-1146.

Best,
Dr. Patel